

State of Illinois Bruce Rauner, Governor











Illinois Department of Transportation

Randall S. Blankenhorn, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **CONTACT:**

June 12, 2018 Gianna Urgo 312.814.4693 Guy Tridgell 312.793.4199

IDOT to Host Open House at UIC for New **Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Resource Center**

CHICAGO — The Illinois Department of Transportation will host an open house for the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program's relocated resource center at the University of Illinois at Chicago on Thursday, June 14. The public is invited to visit the center at 1253 S. Halsted St., Suite 321, between 2 and 6 p.m.

"The resource center is a one-stop shop to learn about the services offered by IDOT and to help eligible firms do business with the state," said Illinois Transportation Secretary Randy Blankenhorn. "Under Gov. Rauner's leadership, we are committed to growing and diversifying the firms that wish to partner with IDOT on projects, leveling the playing field and making our contracts even more competitive."

At the event, staff will be available to discuss how to become certified as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) and to explain the programs and services that IDOT makes available to help minorities, women and other eligible small businesses.

Attendees also can learn more about IDOT's Supportive Services program, which includes management and technical assistance, as well as innovative workshops and seminars that can assist small businesses in developing skills, knowledge and capabilities to do business with the state. The services are provided at no charge.

For more information on becoming a certified DBE, visit IDOT's DBE Certification website. Contact DOT.SupportiveServices@illinois.gov or call (217) 782-5490 with any questions.